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LETTER DATED 3 MAY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT OBSERVER OF PALESTINE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

As Chairman of the Arab Group during May 1995, I should like to convey to you the Group's position towards the latest action taken recently by the Israeli Government with regard to Jerusalem, namely, its decision to confiscate 35 hectares of Palestinian land situated in the area of East Jerusalem and its announcement that such land is to be allocated for the purpose of continuing to build Israeli settlements, thus contravening the rules of international law.

The Arab Group expresses its severe condemnation of the aforesaid Israeli action as a flagrant violation of the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the relevant Security Council resolutions. That action moreover contradicts the Middle East peace process arrangements and threatens their progress.

The Arab Group affirms that the city of Jerusalem is of particular and central significance for Arab and Muslim workers. It likewise affirms the Arab character of Jerusalem, as well as the invalidity of Israeli measures and procedures aimed at changing the legal status of Jerusalem.

The Arab Group officially requests the Security Council to take urgent steps to deal with this extremely serious situation and put an end to the numerous Israeli violations, particularly in East Jerusalem, as well as to take the necessary measures for revocation of the Israeli confiscation orders.

The Arab Group will continue to follow developments in the matter in the light of the action that the Security Council takes and the outcome of the emergency meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the League of Arab States to consider this important subject.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer to
the United Nations
Chairman of the Arab Group

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